

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace without prejudice or disclaimer, all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A diffuser for a distribution system for use in a pastillation machine, said distribution system including a distribution bar having a bore therethrough, said bore having a longitudinal bore surface, said diffuser comprising:

an elongate body sized to fit into said bore of said distribution bar, said elongate body having a longitudinal portion between a pair of ends; and

~~centerers~~ centering elements extending ~~solely outwardly~~ from said ~~longitudinal portion elongate body~~ for engaging said bore surface;

wherein said ~~centerers~~ centering elements maintain said elongate body generally spaced from said ~~the bore surface of said bore of said distribution bar of said distribution system~~ to permit the flow of fluid around said ~~the~~ longitudinal portion of said elongate body.

2. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said ~~centerers~~ centering elements maintain said elongate body generally in the center of said bore.

3. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said elongate body is a bar.

4. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 3 wherein said elongate body is comprised of steel.

5. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 4 wherein said elongate body is comprised of type 316 stainless steel.

6. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said ~~centerers~~ centering elements comprise a series of tabs extending outwardly from ~~said~~ the longitudinal portion of said elongate body.

7. (Previously Presented) A diffuser as claimed in claim 6 wherein alternating pairs of said tabs extend in opposite directions.

8. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said ~~centerers~~ centering elements comprise springs.

9. (Previously Presented) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said elongate body is a rod.